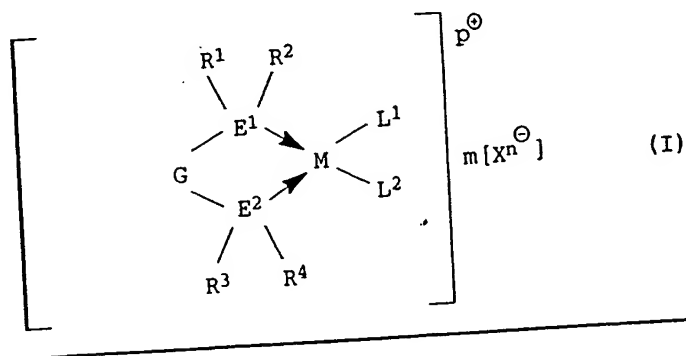


**COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION**

1-5. (canceled)

6. (presently amended) A process for the preparation of linear, alternating copolymers of carbon monoxide and  $\alpha$ -olefinically unsaturated compounds, wherein the copolymerization is carried out in an aqueous medium in the presence of a catalyst system ~~as claimed in claims 1 to 4~~ containing, as essential components

a) a metal complex of the formula (I)



where

G is  $-(CR^b)_2-$ ,  $-(CR^b)_2-Si(R^a)_2-(CR^b)_2-$ ,  $-A'-O-B'-$  or  $-A'-Z(R^5)-B'-$

R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, or is C<sub>1</sub>- to C<sub>28</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>- to C<sub>14</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>- to C<sub>15</sub>-aryl or alkylaryl where the alkyl radical is of 1 to 20 carbon atoms and the aryl radical is of 6 to 15 carbon atoms, each of which is unsubstituted or substituted by functional groups based on the elements of groups IVA, VA, VIA or VIIA of the Periodic Table of Elements, or is  $-N(R^b)_2$ ,  $-Si(R^c)_3$  or a radical of the formula II

where

q is an integer from 0 to 20 and the further substituents in (II) have the same meanings as in (I).

A' and B' are each  $-(CR^b_2)_r-$  or  $-(CR^b_2)_s-Si(R^a)_2-(CR^b_2)_{t-1}$

R<sup>a</sup> independently of one another, are each C<sub>1</sub>- to C<sub>20</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>- to C<sub>10</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>- to C<sub>15</sub>-aryl or alkylaryl where the alkyl moiety is of 1 to 10 carbon atoms and the aryl moiety is of 6 to 15 carbon atoms.

R<sup>b</sup> is the same as R<sup>a</sup> or is hydrogen or Si(R<sup>c</sup>)<sub>3</sub>.

R<sup>c</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>- to C<sub>20</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>- to C<sub>10</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>- to C<sub>15</sub>-aryl or alkylaryl where the alkyl moiety is of 1 to 10 carbon atoms and the aryl moiety is of 6 to 15 carbon atoms.

r is 1, 2, 3 or 4

r' is 1 or 2.

s and t are each 0, 1 or 2, where  $1 \leq s+t \leq 3$

Z is a nonmetallic element from group VA of the Periodic Table of Elements.

M is a metal selected from the group VIIIB, IB or IIB of the Periodic Table of Elements.

E<sup>1</sup> and E<sup>2</sup> are each a nonmetallic element from group VA of the Periodic Table of Elements.

R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup> are each linear or branched C<sub>2</sub>- to C<sub>28</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>- to C<sub>14</sub>-cycloalkyl or alkylaryl where the alkyl moiety is of 1 to 28 carbon atoms and the aryl moiety is of 6 to 15 carbon atoms, each of which is substituted by at least

one polar protic or ionic functional group based on elements of groups

IVA to VIA of the Periodic Table of Elements.

L<sup>1</sup> and L<sup>2</sup> are formally charged or neutral ligands.

X are formally monovalent or polyvalent anions.

p is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4.

m and n are each 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4.

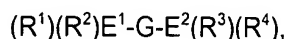
and p = m x n.

and

b) optionally, one or more Lewis or protic acids or a mixture of Lewis and protic acids.

7. (presently amended) A process for the preparation of linear, alternating copolymers of carbon monoxide and  $\alpha$ -olefinically unsaturated compounds, wherein the monomers are copolymerized in an aqueous medium in the presence

- i) of a metal M selected from the group VIIIB, IB or IIB of the Periodic Table of Elements, which is present in salt form or as a complex salt,
- ii) a chelate ligand of the formula (III)

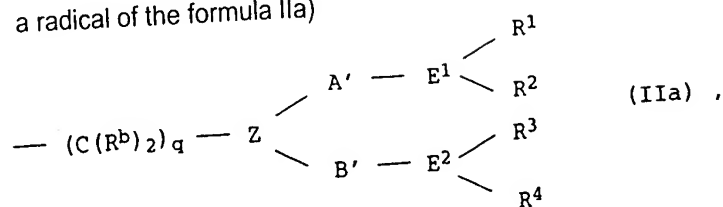


where

G is  $-(CR^b_2)_r-$ ,  $-(CR^b_2)_s-Si(R^a)_2-(CR^b_2)_t-$ ,  $-A'-O-B'-$  or  $-A'-Z(R^5)-B'-$ ,

R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen or is C<sub>1</sub>- to C<sub>28</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>- to C<sub>14</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>- to C<sub>15</sub>-aryl or alkylaryl where the alkyl radical is of 1 to 20 carbon atoms and the aryl radical is of 6 to 15 carbon atoms, each of which is unsubstituted or substituted by functional groups based on the elements of groups IVA, VA, VIA or VIIA of the Periodic Table of Elements, or is  $-N(R^b)_2$ ,  $-Si(R^c)_3$  or

a radical of the formula IIa)



where

q is an integer from 0 to 20 and the further substituents in (IIa) have the same meanings as in (III),

A' and B' are each  $\text{---}(\text{CR}^b_2)_r\text{---}$  or  $\text{---}(\text{CR}^b_2)_s\text{---Si}(\text{R}^a)_2\text{---}(\text{CR}^b_2)_t\text{---N}(\text{R}^b)\text{---}$ , an r', s- or t-atom component of a ring system or, together with Z, an (r'+1), (s+1)- or (t+1)-atom component of a heterocyclic structure,

R<sup>a</sup> independently of one another, are each C<sub>1</sub>- to C<sub>20</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>- to C<sub>10</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>- to C<sub>15</sub>-aryl or alkylaryl where the alkyl moiety is of 1 to 10 carbon atoms and the aryl moiety is of 6 to 15 carbon atoms,

R<sup>b</sup> is the same as R<sup>a</sup> or is hydrogen or Si(R<sup>c</sup>)<sub>3</sub>,

R<sup>c</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>- to C<sub>20</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>- to C<sub>10</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>- to C<sub>15</sub>-aryl or alkylaryl where the alkyl moiety is of 1 to 10 carbon atoms and the aryl moiety is of 6 to 15 carbon atoms,

r is 1, 2, 3 or 4,

r' is 1 or 2,

s and t are each 0, 1 or 2, where  $1 \leq s+t \leq 3$

Z is a nonmetallic element from group VA of the Periodic Table of Elements,

E<sup>1</sup> and E<sup>2</sup> are each a nonmetallic element from group VA of the Periodic Table of Elements, and

R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup> are each linear or branched C<sub>2</sub>- to C<sub>28</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>- to C<sub>14</sub>-cycloalkyl or

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alkylaryl where the alkyl moiety is of 1 to 28 carbon atoms and the aryl moiety is of 6 to 15 carbon atoms, each of which is substituted by at least one polar protic or ionic functional group based on elements of groups IVA to VIA of the Periodic Table of Elements,

and

iii) ~~if required~~ optionally, one or more Lewis or protic acids or a mixture of Lewis and protic acids.